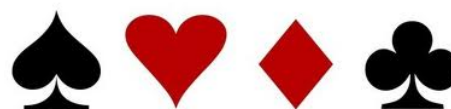


Brisbane Bridge Centre Newsletter



February 2025

Vol. 13 No 2

President's Report

The Gold Coast Congress is over for this year, and possibly forever – though we were notified that there is a spark of hope that the event may be run again in the future. Fingers crossed!

Of our members who played there, two pairs achieved notable results: Charles Page and Simon Fleming came second in the Saturday Butler Swiss Pairs 0-500 division, and Don Weerheim and Peter Grinlaubs came second in the Tuesday AM walk-in pairs. Congratulations!



Janette Kollisch and Natasha Thomas enjoying the Gold Coast Congress

Our Club championship is coming up on Saturday March 22nd. This is an all-day event and the regular duplicate session will not be available. It is open to BBC club members only, and those members must have played at least 3 times in the 3 months prior to the championship (or at the discretion of the committee). Players with fewer than 300 masterpoints have the

option of playing in either the full-day open championship, or an afternoon under 300MP section starting at 1pm. Come along and have a great day of bridge, with the chance of being our 2025 champions!

Our Easter congress will be held on Sunday 20 April and Monday 21 April. This is our biggest congress, and prior to the event we are planning on having a working bee on Sunday 6 April from 9 to 12am to spruce up the club. Please arm yourself with cloths, buckets, rubber gloves, mops etc and come along for whatever time you can spare if you can lend a hand.

The 2025 diaries have now arrived from the printers - please take one for yourself.



Symphony in orange – Janet Leggo and Sue Crennan with other beautiful roses at the club.

Elaine Jonsberg

Administrator's Corner

BBC Newnham Shield Club Pairs Championship - Red Points (Saturday 22 March)

Our club championship is coming up soon. The event will be run with two grades. Open – 9:30am start (all day). Under 300 Masterpoints – 1pm start. All players must be financial BBC members and have played at least 3 times in BBC session games in the past 3 months, or may also be accepted at the discretion of the committee. Prior entry is required. You can enter on the BBC website events page, email the club or submit the entry form available at the club and online. Entries close Tuesday 18 March. Note: The only play on Saturday 22 March will be the Club Championship. There will be no normal afternoon duplicate pairs on this day.

Rugby at Souths

Rugby at Souths is starting up once again. Trial games are coming up on Saturday March 8 and March 15, and the first couple of home games will be played on Saturdays 29 March and 11 April. I ask for those arriving by car to please arrive by 12:40pm on rugby game days to ensure you are able to park, so we can start bridge on time.

Wednesday Morning March Pairs - Red Points

5 March, (one session) 9:30am start. No prior entry is required. Everyone plays in the red point sessions. The cost is \$7 or a coupon for members and \$9 for visitors.

Coming event: BBC Easter Congress (Sunday 20 & Monday 21 April) – mark it in your diary.

Each day will start at 9:30am, please arrive by 9:15am. Entry fee is \$35 per player (\$70 per pair/\$140 per team); however our numbers are limited so if you are interested please enter quickly once entries open. Entries will close Tuesday 15 April.

The entry form will be available soon, online on the QBA website, the BBC website and on MyABF or printed on the noticeboards at the club.

New Members

The Committee welcomes the following new members and wishes them a long and happy association with BBC.

- Thais Morgan-Petrus (returning member)
- Sandra Aring

The Mississippi Heart Hand

Imagine you were dealt, as South, the following hand:

♠ A K Q
♥ A K Q J 10 9
♦ -
♣ A K Q J

This is without doubt the best hand you will ever hold and you therefore open 7H, which is

surely a laydown. You are both surprised and delighted when West doubles, and so, like shooting fish in a barrel, you re-double.

West, as expected, leads the Ace of diamonds, North apologises for his paucity of points, and you smile smugly and say “no worries.”

The outcome of this hand is that declarer makes only his six trump tricks, going down seven for a score of minus 4000.

Full hand:

♠ 10 5 4 3 2	
♥ -	
♦ 5 4 3 2	
♣ 5 4 3 2	
♠ -	♠ J 9 8 7 6
♥ 8 7 6 5 4 3 2	♥ -
♦ A K Q J 10 9	♦ 8 7 6
♣ -	♣ 10 9 8 7 6
♠ A K Q	
♥ A K Q J 10 9	
♦ -	
♣ A K Q J	

Opening lead ♦A

South is trapped. If he trumps the lead and tries to draw trumps, he loses control of the trump suit and the entire hand.

If he leads any other suit, west ruffs. Every time West ruffs he leads another diamond, forcing declarer to ruff and lose control of the hand.

This is obviously a rigged hand and is known as the Mississippi Heart hand, because it was widely used, in the days of whist, by 19th century cardsharps on Mississippi River steamboats.

(From "Points Schmoints" by Marty Bergen).

Ten Ways to improve your Bridge

1. Play more – but focused. Be self-critical and analyse your mistakes.
2. Develop a partnership – learn together and experiment with new bidding systems.
3. Count - the single most essential skill at bridge. Count each suit, thinking in patterns, and build up a picture of the hands, and count high card points.
4. Teach – there are few better ways to learn something than by teaching others.
5. Read – there are countless excellent books available for all levels of skill. Subscribe to one of the specialist Bridge magazines.
6. Use computer software – many good programs are available.
7. Play Online – a very convenient way to gain experience. Bridge Base Online is one of the best.
8. Be physically and mentally prepared – make sure you have had adequate sleep and nutrition prior to play. Understand your body; a poor last half hour due to low blood sugar etc, could ruin your entire session.
9. Learn from better players – do not be afraid to ask for help and advice and try to play in competitions and congresses against better players.
10. Enjoy the challenge and pleasure of the greatest game mankind has invented. Play with a smile on your face, and you will be a popular partner and a great ambassador for the game.

Heard at the Bridge Table

Put 4 bridge players on the table and you'll get 4 different opinions.

Winning does not really matter, as long as you win.

Some people are so busy learning the various conventions and gadgets of the game; they never fully enjoy the game.

Don't let worries get you down - play Bridge instead

Bridge is like a hot bath. It feels good while you're in it, but the longer you stay in, the more wrinkles you get.

If you award Masterpoints for very good results then, logically, you should deduct them for very bad results.

(He) is so bad that he admits to mistakes before he makes them

People shouldn't be allowed to use conventions they don't understand. It's not fair to the opponents.

If I work very hard at it, I may be able to achieve mediocrity.

I expect the worst in bridge and am rarely disappointed.

Through constant practice, I have become an expert loser.

You made your Ace of trumps. What else can you possibly want?

Your bidding and card play are not on the same high level as the rest of your game.

I do not doubt your luck and I know no one who needs it more than you.

My point count system? Extra for long suit, extra for short suit and 3 points for my superb play.

In bridge, as in life, the key is to keep your cards close.

Keep your eye on the cards and your heart in the game.

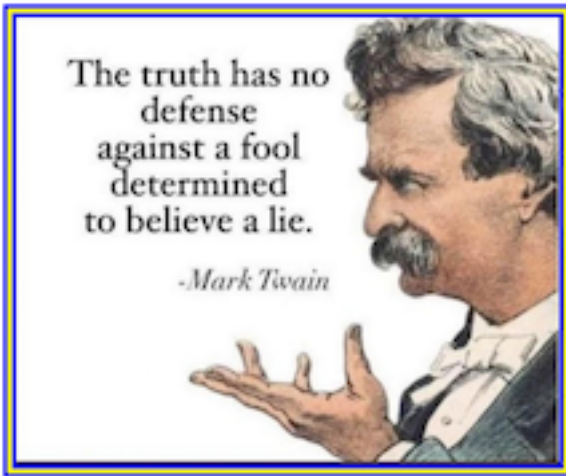
Bridge is the spice of life.

Every hand in bridge is a chance to start fresh.

Bridge: where every bid is a story waiting to be told.

Bridge is the perfect blend of challenge and fun.

Dave Jayne's Funnies



Thag Anderson becomes the first fatality as a result of falling asleep at the wheel.

Endgame

Please send all material for future newsletters to the **Editor, Arne Jonsberg**, via email at arnejuser2@bigpond.com, or contact Arne by phone on 0404 085 712. Current and past newsletters available on BBC's web-site: www.bbc.bridgeaustralia.org